

WARE RIVER NEWS

SERVING THE WARE REGION FOR 129 YEARS

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2020

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Linda Lloyd, of Angels Answer Inc. in Ware, proudly holds the trophy crafted by Juliet Rose Pottery Studio in Monson.



The sophomore class won the Ware Junior Senior High School Winter Carnival for the first time.



Santa counted down to the lighting of the Christmas tree on Veteran's Square at the annual Ware Flair.

YEAR IN REVIEW

OUR CHOICE FOR SOME OF THE TOP PHOTOS OF 2019



Cars packed into Janine's Frostee's parking lot and for the restaurant's annual car show, which raises money for cancer services based at Baystate Mary Lane.

As we do every year, this issue is a look back in photos at the past year in Ware, Warren and Hardwick.

These small towns are strong in their identity and their sense of community, always helping each other and the schools, with many organizations that foster that sense of a village pulling together to make lives better for everyone.

So please enjoy the year in photos before the New Year gets fully underway. Have a happy New Year and thanks for sharing your stories with us.



From left to right, Ware Police Office Jeanne Bonnayer, Hardwick and New Braintree Police Chief Jim Ayotte, May Knight, of Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley, Monica Moran, coordinator of the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force, Torie Jock, JAC Patrissi, of Behavioral Health Network, and task force member Marissa Lourake at the Dometic Awareness Walk in Ware.



From left to right, Daniel Mitchell, State Rep. Donnie Berthume Jr., R-Spencer, Stephen Walters, State Rep. Todd Smola, R-Warren, state Sen. Anne Gobi, D-Spencer, and Douglas Harvey take a selfie on stage at the Ware Eagle Scout ceremony of Daniel Mitchell, Stephen Walters and Douglas Harvey of Ware Boy Scout Troop 281.



Local and state officials were on hand last Friday for the official ribbon-cutting of ArtWorks and ClayWorks, a co-operative venture between the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corp. and Workshop13. QVCCDC Executive Director Sheila Cuddy, center, cut the ribbon. It opened officially in January.



Charlie Lask makes Neil Diamond proud as he performs many of his beloved songs with keyboardist Ahren Martin at the Ware fireworks.

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SPORTS

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OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

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CHRISTMAS KOLEDY & CAROLS St. Mary's Polish Choir will hold a Christmas Koledy and Carols Sing-a-Long on Sunday, Jan. 5, at 1 p.m., at St. Mary's Church, at 60 South St. in Ware. The snow date will be Jan. 12. It is free and open to the public although a freewill offering will be taken. Refreshments will be served at the parish hall after the program. The church and hall are handicap accessible. For more information please check the church bulletin, website or call the Rectory at 413-967-5913.

POLISH PLATE DINNER The Friends of the Warren Town Hall are sponsoring their annual Polish Plate Dinner on Saturday, Jan. 11, with sittings from 5 to 6 p.m., at the Warren Senior Center, 2252 Main St. Take-out orders are also available from 4 to 5 p.m. There will also be raffles during the dinner. The dinner consists of golombki, pierogi, kielbasa, kapusta and Polish rye bread. Tickets are \$15 and must be purchased in advance as they will not sold at the door. Call 413-436-5389 or tickets or reservations.

WILDLIFE PHOTO ArtWorks Gallery, at 69 Main St., will offer a Quabbin wildlife slideshow on Sunday Jan. 12, from 2 to 4 p.m. Photographer Dale Monette will present a slideshow of remarkable photographs documenting the truly amazing array of creatures living in our own local unique landscape. Monette worked 30 years as an educator and a naturalist for the DCR at the Quabbin Reservoir. See what Monette and his camera saw, from eagles and loons to otters, bears and more, along with scenic views of the 18-mile-long Quabbin Reservoir. Monette will have two of his books available for his personal signature. Conversation and light refreshments to follow.

ONGOING activities

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT GROUP Were you in a relationship you felt was destructive?

Are you in one now? Not sure? Come talk with us about this and more in a safe, confidential and supportive atmosphere. Come to The Healing Alliance Support Group for women questioning the health of their relationships on Domestic Violence Support Group at the Ware Learning Center, 23 West Main St, in Ware, on Thursdays, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Free child care is provided. For more information please contact Pat James at 413-726-8661.

FAMILY GAME NIGHT will be held at the Gilbertville Public Library, 259 Main St., Gilbertville the first and third Wednesdays of every month from 6:30-7:30 p.m. People can sign up for the checkers tournament, enjoy lots of games, coloring or Legos. This program is made possible by a cultural council grant.

WARE DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA, Circle 106 has temporarily changed its meeting place. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the meetings will be at the home of Carol DeSantis, 307 Belchertown Road, Ware, the second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. Notify Charlene at 413-813-8557 whether you are able to attend.

TEA, TREATS AND TALK are what Tea Party Thursdays are all about at the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, Hardwick. There are so many delightful people to meet. Come make new friends, meet old acquaintances and share conversation. Just come for tea (or coffee) or come propose a new activity. Meet at the Paige on Thursdays at 3 p.m. For more information email director.paigelibrary@gmail.com or call 413-477-6704.

KNITTING AND CROCHET CLUB The Gilbertville Public Library holds a knitting and crochet club meeting every Thursday from 2:30 to 4 p.m. All are welcome to come no matter their level of experience. Come and learn, lessons are given from 3 to 4 p.m. The library is located at 259 Main St. in the Gilbertville section of Hardwick.

HOMEMADE MEAL DELIVERY All Saints Church is starting a hot homemade meal delivery for anyone in Ware called Take and Eat, which will be available on the first Saturday of each month. The church would like to know of anyone, yourselves included, who would benefit for getting a hot home-made meal once a month. There is no charge for the meal and there are no qualifications in getting the meal. Just asking for it is enough. Please call the rectory office at 413-967-4963 and give the name and address of the person or persons who would like to receive the meal. The program is built on the gospel of Jesus Christ, "I was hungry and you gave me food, a stranger and you welcomed me, ill and you cared for me."

WARE FUEL BANK The Ware Fuel Bank has once again received generous donations from local businesses and has funds to help Ware residents who are facing interruption of utility service during the heating season. The only requirement is being a Ware resident with proof of low-income status or a financial crisis. The United Church of Ware administers this program. Those who need help or those wanting more information should call the church at 413-967-9981.

NEW MEMBERS SOUGHT Ware Community Theatre is seeking new members. It is a nonprofit organization interested in enhancing Ware's culture by producing live performance plays, readings and solo persons of interest that may include musicals, dramas, local and national historical productions and timely events. They meet monthly on the third Monday at Workshop13, 13 Church St., Ware at 7 p.m. Please call 413-544-8381 with any questions.

COMMUNITY DINNER STARTS The Ware Senior Center, at 1 Robbins Road will hold free community dinners on the second Wednesday of each month beginning in January. All ages are welcome at the dinner.

NARCAN TRAINING The Ware Fire Department and the Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance are sponsoring free nasal Narcan (Naloxone) trainings on the first Thursday of the month at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Narcan or Naloxone is a medication that can rapidly reverse an overdose from prescription opioids or heroin. It can be purchased without a prescription at local pharmacies. If you or a loved one uses opioids, it is recommended to have Narcan and know how to use it. The free trainings will be held at the Ware Fire Department at 200 West Street. No appointments

or pre-registrations are necessary, and those wishing to get the training can just walk in. For more information, contact Ed Wloch at ewloch@townofware.com or call 413-967-5901.

BAND SEEKS NEW MEMBERS Residents are invited to join the Ware Community Concert Band. Come and experience the satisfaction of rehearsing and performing in a large accomplished band. The Concert Band rehearses once each week in the Ware High School auditorium on Wednesday nights from 7 to 8:30 p.m. They perform two full-length concerts each season, one in December and one in June, and also perform at local ceremonies and events. Membership is open to all local and area musicians of all ability levels and all band instruments. The only requirement is a desire to grow musically. Exercise your talents and come join them in making the music. For more information contact John, the conductor, at jshobbs413@charter.net.

KNITTING CIRCLE The Warren Public Library at 934 Main St., in Warren is inviting knitters on Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m. to join all ages and abilities of knitters at a new, ongoing knitting circle. Stop by for a while or stay the whole time. A knitting circle is a great place to relax, create and chat with fellow knitters and to share favorite tips and tricks. Basic instruction will be provided to beginning knitters. For more information contact the library at 413-436-7690.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY-UNIT 123 WARE meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 4 p.m. at the Legion Hall on Maple Street. New members are welcome. For more information, please contact Michele at (413) 544-1996.

BASEBALL BOOK AVAILABLE The Ware Historical Society has added to its collection of the three Ware histories and other books of interest, "Ware Boys of Summer" by Ware native Stephen R. Katz. The stories of seven major league players from out small town is full of history of the game. Call Polli at 413-967-6882 to purchase a copy. The cost is \$15.95.

STORY TIME The Young Men's Library Association has story time every Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. located at 37 Main Street in Ware. After the story, there is always a craft. Come meet new friends! All ages welcome. No registration required. The library is wheelchair accessible. Contact Cathy Rezendes at 413-967-9691 for more information.

BOOK CLUB The Gilbertville Public Library holds a meeting of its book club on the last Wednesday of each month from 7 to 8 p.m. The library is located at 259 Main St. in the Gilbertville section of Hardwick.

ADULT COLORING CLUB The Gilbertville Public Library holds an adult coloring club meeting on the first, third, fourth and fifth Wednesday of every month from 6 to 7 p.m. The library is located at 259 Main St. in the Gilbertville section of Hardwick.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS Alcoholic Anonymous meetings are held on Thursday nights at Trinity Episcopal Church on Park Street from 8 to 9 p.m., and Sunday nights at Mary Lane Hospital on South Street from 7 to 8:15 p.m.

STORY TIME Warren Public Library holds story time every Tuesday at 11 a.m. All children are invited to come and listen to stories and do a fun craft. The program is geared to 3 to 5-year-olds, but younger and older children are also welcome. For more information call 413- 436-7690. The library is located at 934 Main St.

MISS DONNA STORY TIME The West Warren Library Association presents a new season of Story Time with Miss Donna every second and fourth Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the West Warren Public Library, 2370 Main St. There will be fun, reading and crafts for tots 3 to 5-years-old. Please call 413-436-9892 with any questions.

KNITTING CIRCLE Knitters of all ages and abilities are invited to join an ongoing knitting circle at the Warren Public Library, at 934 Main St. in Warren. The group meets on Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m.. Both experienced and beginning knitters are welcome, and crocheters, too. Basic materials and instruction will be provided to beginning knitters. Come and learn how to knit. Stop by for a while or stay the whole time. A knitting circle is a great place to relax, create and chat with fellow knitters and to share favorite tips and tricks. For more information call 413-436-7690.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS A new Narcotics Anonymous group called "The Ware Clean Group" now meets on Sundays from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. at "The Living Room" at Trinity Episcopal Church, 17 Park St.

The local Salvation Army service unit offers support to families in the Ware/Warren area. Services include helping families find information on utility shut offs, food/clothing referrals, and fuel assistance. If you are in need of information and would like to make an appointment, call 413-277-5432.

THE CLOWNING FOR KIDZ FOUNDATION is seeking individuals and businesses interested in sponsoring a decorative balloon on their clown bus. For a \$50 tax-deductible donation the balloon will feature the sponsor's name and contact information prominently displayed and seen by thousands of event spectators across New England. For more information, please contact Jim Allard at 413-454-7234.

WARE BOY SCOUT TROOP 281, sponsored by Ware AMVETS Post 2577, meets every Tuesday from 6 to 7:15 PM at Shriners Hall. New members in grades 5- 11 are always welcomed. Contact Dan Flynn at 413-297-5886 or scoutdad281@charter.net.

WARE FAMILY CUB SCOUT PACK 520, sponsored by Earl A. Howe American Legion Post 123, meets every Tuesday from 5:30 to 6:30 PM. The Cub Scout Pack is for boys and girls in grades K – 5. Please contact Cubmaster Chris Boos at 413-345-0448 for more information.

WARE CUB SCOUT PACK 239 meets every Tuesday from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. at All Saints Church on North Street. The pack is now chartered by All Saints Church. New members always welcomed. Contact David Hartman at 413-967-8711.

WARE AND WARREN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TASK FORCES have a Community Input line at 413-758-0605 (toll-free). If you have concerns, advice or input please let us know.

WARE FAMILY CENTER offers a drop-in playgroup for children ages 0-5 accompanied by their adult caregivers. Snack is provided. For more information, call 413-967-8127. It is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

MILITARY FRIENDS AND FAMILY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP will be held on the first Sunday of the month at 2 p.m. on the 2nd floor Conference Room, Quaboag Valley CDC, 23 West Main St., Ware. For more information, please visit www.careforthetroops-ma.org, email beverly@careforthetroops-ma.org or call 413-563-7282.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Database management system

5. Soft blue-gray mineral

11. Algerian coastal city

12. A healthy redness

16. El __, border town

17. Part of the mind

18. Female body part

19. Atrocities

24. You can call Paul Simon this

25. Copyread

26. Large integers

27. Large, flightless bird

28. Bread and whiskey are two

29. Indicate pain or discomfort

30. Worry

31. Wild goats

33. Belittle

34. More supernatural

38. Wakes up

39. Intestinal pouches

40. Popular dance

43. American state

44. CSI actor

45. Having a keen enthusiasm for

49. Swiss river

50. Restaurant item

51. Intense unhappiness

53. Unit of loudness

54. Increase in velocity

56. Mesoamerican religion

58. Early multimedia

59. Forearm bone

60. An unprincipled person

63. Swarming with

64. Shellfish

65. Root of taro plant

CLUES DOWN

1. More silly

2. Adult beverage

3. Iron used for lofting

4. Noses

5. Smile

6. One who examines closely

7. Lethal dose

8. Denotes past

9. "This Is Us" actor Fitch

10. Dabbling ducks

13. Polish beer

14. A type of cat

15. Shows respect for

20. Of I

21. Commercial

22. Chai and chamomile are two

23. Lodging option

27. Geological times

29. Unit of electrical inductance (abbr.)

30. Where G-men work

31. Hot beverage

32. One of the six noble gases

33. Southern constellation

34. South American nation

35. Suitable for use as food

36. The back

37. I (German)

38. Blood group

40. Fit to stand trial

41. Praise excessively

42. Female's title

44. EU predecessor

45. Acutely insightful and wise

46. Disguised

47. Improved the appearance of

48. Generator

50. The real __, the genuine article

51. Male's title

52. Home of the Hawkeyes

54. About aviation

55. At all times

57. Military peace officer

61. College degree

62. Indicates position

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Please, no magazines or Reader's Digest Condensed Books.

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Proceeds To Benefit the Palmer Public Library

Ed and Cindy Wloch are retiring

Fire Department headed in right direction

By Melina Bourdeau
Staff writer

WARE – For 29 years, Ed Wloch has been working in the Ware Fire Department and by Jan. 21, 2020, he will be a Florida resident in New Port Richey, along with his wife, Cindy Wloch.

Wloch announced his retirement as acting chief in the department earlier this month, after serving as the head of the department since February, when then Fire Chief Thomas Coulombe was put on administrative leave.

Wloch began his career as a firefighter in 1989, in December, and he recalls the first occasion he attended was the company Christmas party.

"It the first function that I went to and met people," Wloch said. "It was hilarious."

Wloch and the recently appointed acting Fire Chief Chris Gagnon were the first two paramedics in the department, which he said, "set the department on a new path."

He also served as the shift commander, then union president as well as a selectman for the town.

"I only served one term, because otherwise I wouldn't have been able to get promoted to lieutenant," Wloch said. "I was one of the top scorers and I got promoted to lieutenant and then to captain and then deputy chief, which I was for about five or six years."

He said the accomplishments he's most proud of are starting the fire and EMT course at Ware High School, helping to create a first responder software application for cell phones and bringing the department back to safety standards.

The app, called Irestoreit app, was created to allow first responders to report electrical lines and wires at scenes like car accidents.

"It started when I sent a photo on scene of a car with wires across it to the first line super," he said. "It allows for them to be able to know what equipment they need and the work that needs to be done."

He said the app launched about five years ago and has been "a great success."

On a more local level, Wloch started the yearlong "Introduction to Firefighting and EMS" class which is going on its third year.

The program prepares students for the Massachusetts State Certification Examination to become an EMT as well as training and education to become fire fighters, if the students choose to do so.

"It also served to recruit people into the fire department as well as benefit the schools and students," Wloch said.

He said Jim Martinez, who has been working with the class for the past three years, will be taking over the program.

Cindy Wloch's accomplishments include obtaining two 9/11 pieces of steel, which are on display at the station as well as volunteer work and time on the Council on Aging.

"I'm thankful for all that I could do to help the town of Ware. I'm honored to know each and every member of the fire department. They're excellent people and I hope they succeed in the future," Cindy Wloch said. "Chris will be a hell of a chief and now the department will go in the right direction."

Within the department, Wloch said he worked to maintain the safety of the equipment in the fire department.

"We got all of the hoses and ladders tested, the tower fixed, the SEBAs got fixed," Wloch said. "There was a previous lack of attention to these things and I got it done all within budget."

He said the department is back up to safety standards and "it's a nice change I hope can continue."

After serving as the acting

chief, Wloch said he's ready to move on.

"I've had a lot of fun," Wloch said. "I couldn't leave in good conscience until the steps were taken to go in the right direction."

Following taking over as acting chief, Wloch said he had to get the department "back on track."

"It was important to take action, I had no choice but to get the department on track," Wloch said. "It's not too much to ask to have the leader of the department put the department first and foremost. Now that things are going right, it really isn't my responsibility."

He said Gagnon is "more focused on policy and he'll be able to catch up and get them finished."

Although the end of his tenure was not enjoyable, Wloch said he is proud of his work at the department and is ready for "some me time."

The Wlochs purchased an RV and made plans to travel earlier this year, and although that didn't go as planned, they're looking forward to traveling soon.

"Now it's our time," Wloch said.

Their plans include stops like California and Alaska, but they don't intend on being strangers.

"We have a lot of friends here," Cindy said. "We're going to stay in touch."

Chris Gagnon is new acting fire chief

By Melina Bourdeau
Staff writer

WARE – Ware selectmen unanimously appointed Chris Gagnon as the town's acting fire chief on Monday, Dec. 23.

Gagnon takes over following the retirement of the previous acting chief, Ed Wloch.

Gagnon was previously a lieutenant on the department before being promoted to acting deputy chief under Wloch's tenure.

In the meeting, Town Manager Stuart Beckley, said Gagnon was "strongly recommended for the position."

"He's well-supported in the department and a straightforward guy," Beckley said. "He is able to provide stability that is needed in the department right now and for the term going forward."

Beckley explained that it may take time to appoint a permanent chief because of the Civil Service process.

"The select board must choose between an assessment center, a test or both before the appointment of the next chief," Beckley said. "When we hired (Police) Chief

Crevier, the board chose both, and it seemed like a worthwhile process. But to do the exam, which only comes once a year, in March, and it likely won't be until 2021 to allow people to study for the test."

Beckley added that because the process may be lengthy, "it is important to install the right person in the position."

Selectmen Alan Whitney, Nancy Talbot and Tracy Opalinski were present at the meeting and had no questions for either Beckley or Gagnon. Members Keith Kruckas and John Carroll were not present.

Gagnon spoke to the board before receiving his appointment, saying that he would like to thank the department as a whole.

"I would like to commend the staff at the Ware Fire Department," Gagnon said. "They have truly been remarkable over the last 10 months. The things they respond to on a day-to-day basis is just unbelievable, and they've really come to the plate when handling things there and I'm really super proud of them. Going forward, I'm humbled and honored to be considered for the position and I look forward to it."



Trumpets all in a row (left to right) Lois Sturtevant, '72, Preston Carr, '18, Devin Lyden, '18, current student Thomas Doyle, Maddison Wheeler, '14, Jeff Nahkala, '81, Steve Aliquo, '77, and Jenny Pratt, '99 during the Quabbin Alumni Band in 2019.



A partnership between the Parks and Recreation Department and the Opalinski family have resulted in an 80-foot by 100-foot temporary ice rink on Memorial Field. The cold temperatures last weekend allowed for ice.



Quaboag Regional Middle High School eighth-graders Elizabeth Czarja and Charlie Schwenker were chosen as the 2019 ambassadors for Project 351, and join eighth-graders from every community in the state to work on community service projects.

2019 A YEAR IN PHOTOS • JANUARY •



Ware Junior Senior High School students Devin Slattery, Travis Orszulak and Dylan Slattery dressed as Winnie the Pooh, Tigger, and Eeyore for Winter Carnival competition for Dress as a TV Character Day. The percentage of students taking part in themed dress-up days counts toward winning points.



ClayWorks opened its doors to the public last January, showing people how to use potter's wheels and clay in its Main Street studio in Ware, and it's been busy ever since. It is a cooperative venture between the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corp. and Workshop13.

• FEBRUARY •



Veteran Bobby Curley speaks at the monthly Welcome Home Place, at the E2E Center on Main Street in Ware last Saturday. The Brookfield Institute, through its Care For the Troops programs, sponsor the get together for all veterans on the fourth Saturday morning of each month.



Guests at the Belfry Ball get ready to feast on the delicious food at Hartman's Herb Farm last Saturday night. The proceeds will be used by the Friends of the Stone Church to help restore the church on Route 32 in Gilbertville.



The Ware River News will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 3. To request a correction, send information to ekennedy@turley.com, or call 967-3505. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Ware River News, Attn: Editor, 80 Main St., Ware, MA 01082.

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SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

Will foreign earnings count toward my benefits?

By Russell Gloor
Guest columnist

Dear Rusty: I am looking for advice on how our recent decision to take up work in the United Kingdom will affect our U.S. Social Security benefits. I want to understand whether we need to be prepared for a loss in future Social Security benefits, in comparison to what we'd get by continuing to work in the U.S. *Signed: Working Abroad*

Dear Working Abroad: I'll start by noting that the U.S. and the U.K. have a bilateral "totalization" agreement which helps those who have worked in both countries qualify for Social Security benefits in the other, but this relates only to you earning enough credits to be eligible for benefits. Your foreign earned income won't be included when computing your U.S. Social Security benefits.

Under the "totalization agreement if, from your work in the U.S., you have earned only 30 credits toward the 40 needed to qualify for U.S. Social Security benefits, and you went to work in the U.K. and earned 10 credits toward the U.K.'s eligibility requirement, those 10 U.K. credits would be added to your 30 U.S. credits to give you the 40 needed to be eligible for U.S. Social Security benefits. However, your U.S. Social Security benefit when it is claimed would be based upon your U.S. earned income only and would not include your U.K. earned income.

To determine your U.S. benefit amount, Social Security uses the highest-earning 35 years of your U.S. earned income during which SS FICA payroll taxes were withheld from your earnings. Your lifetime U.S. earnings are adjusted for inflation and the highest earning 35 years are used to arrive at your "average indexed monthly earnings" (AIME). Your AIME is then used to determine your

"primary insurance amount" (PIA), which is the benefit you are due at your full retirement age. If you don't have a full 35 years of U.S. earnings because you spent a number of years working in the U.K., Social Security will put in enough zeros to make 35 years. Those zeros in your earnings record will reduce your U.S. Social Security benefit amount.

So, by comparison, if you were to remain in the U.S. and continue working (and contributing to Social Security) here, your eventual Social Security benefits will be higher, because your U.S. earnings will count toward your AIME, and will eliminate some or all of any zero years in the 35 used to compute your benefit. Conversely, your earnings from working in the U.K. will not count toward your U.S. Social Security earnings history (won't be included in your AIME), meaning you'll show zeros in your U.S. earnings record for the years you worked in the U.K. and thus your U.S. Social Security benefit will be lower than if you instead continued to work in the U.S. Of course, if you already have at least 35 years of U.S. earnings you will not have zeros in your work history, but your U.K. earnings still will not count toward your U.S. Social Security benefit and will not eliminate any lower-earning years in your 35-year U.S. work history.

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The first gardening questions of the New Year

A reader from Ware wrote in with this question for the Garden Lady: "I love reading about your glorious pepper harvest each summer. I have been researching a number of varieties that promise good results. Is it too early to start seeds indoors now?"

Yes! The best garden-ready pepper plants are started eight to 10 weeks before transplanting outdoors. To determine when seeds should be sown simply count backwards from Memorial Day, our frost-free target date for transplanting heat-loving plants outdoors. I came up with 10 weeks being March 21. If you add another week for proper hardening off, around March 14 would be a great date to start your peppers. While this date may sound late, try your best to hold back your enthusiasm for a couple months and you will be rewarded with a better harvest come summertime. Plants that go into the ground leggy and root bound (often the case when started too early) as well as those with flowers and immature fruit, will often remain stunted and produce poorly compared to properly timed, deep green, stocky seedlings. Another tip: Use a finely ground, soilless peat-based growing mix instead of garden soil for sowing seeds. It will drain well, yet retain enough moisture for germination and plant growth without the added threat of disease.

A gardener from Palmer wants to find a source for heirloom flower seeds. "Can you recommend any reputable seed companies that cater to those of us interested in growing old-fashioned plants?"

Consider shopping for seeds of old-fashioned flowers locally in Sturbridge at OSV's Museum Gift Shop. Many of them have incredibly interesting characteristics and equally interesting, corresponding names. Consider Love Lies Bleeding, Tassle Flower, Bee Larkspur and Canary Creeper! Not to mention Love in a Puff, Ragged Robin, or Monkshood. Seeds are typically available by mid-March. You'll be happy to know that many of the seeds for sale are saved from plants growing right on the premises. Another great source for old-fashioned flowers is Select Seeds, a mail-order seed and plant business located in Union, Connecticut. Call

1-800-684-0395 or go online to www.select-seeds.com to request the 2007 catalog.

This question came to me from a reader who lives in Ware: "My Christmas cactus has just about finished blooming. It was simply breathtaking this year. What can I do to insure that it blooms just as well next Christmas?"

My Babci's Christmas cactus has had its last flower of the season as well. I'll be following this same advice: First, concentrate on plant care. Once the plant has finished blooming it will go into a period of rest, and will need very little water for nearly two months. When growth resumes in spring, water when the soil surface is dry to the touch and provide it with a dose of half-strength liquid fertilizer. Place in indirect light, an east or north facing window is best. During the summer months the plant can go outdoors as long as it is kept in filtered light. It will rest again in early fall, prior to bud set. You'll notice that it won't be as thirsty during this period, so water accordingly.

Then, consider the two environmental factors that are responsible for coaxing a Christmas cactus into bloom. The first is temperature and the second is light. If temperatures at night range between 55 and 60 degrees for a six-week period, the plant will set buds regardless of day length. If temperatures run higher than that, 13 hours of uninterrupted darkness will bring about buds. Simply put the plant to bed each night from 6 p.m. To 8 a.m. until buds form. If your plant sets buds and then drops them prior to full bloom it is likely due to overwatering or exposure. For this reason keep it away from drafty windows, doorways or radiators. This sounds like hard work, but is really quite simple. I'm sure you'll be delighted with breathtaking flowers next Christmas as well!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.



Roberta McQuaid

WARE RIVER NEWS

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POLICY

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and "Your Turn" guest column between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Send opinions to:
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80 Main Street
Ware, MA 01082
or via email to:
ekennedy@turley.com

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2020 Turley
Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

2019
A YEAR IN PHOTOS
• FEBRUARY •



From left to right are Dr. Dave McGuire, Ware Selectman Tracy Opalinski, Baystate Health Eastern Region President and Chief Administrative Officer Mike Moran, Dr. Gaurav Narula, Wound & Hyperbaric Medicine Center Vice President Kelly More, Dr. Tom Canto, State Rep. Todd Smola, and Baystate Wing Board Vice Chairman Steve Lowell at the ribbon-cutting of the Wound & Hyperbaric Medicine Center at Baystate Mary Lane Outpatient Center.



The roof comes of the former South Street School as it is being demolished to make way for a new assisted-living facility, CedarBrook Village, which is scheduled to open this summer.



Cub Scout Mason Kalafarski, of Cub Scout Pack 239, looks over the competition for the Pinewood Derby, before the race along with his dad, Mike Kalafarski.



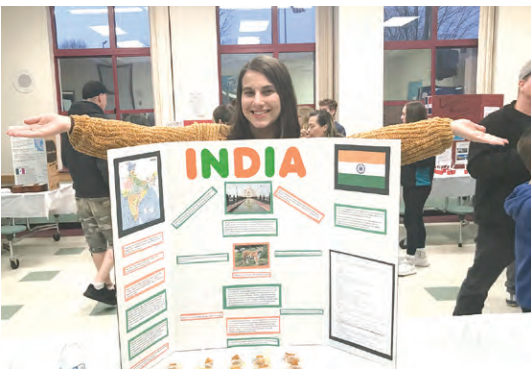
Ware Fire Department's Jeff Kularski takes a shot on net during the annual Battle of the Badges fundraiser at Ware High School. The police and firefighters battle it out to benefit the school's sophomore class.



Outgoing TRIAD President Paul Orszulak (second from right) gets recognized with certificates of appreciation from David Fenton (far left) of the Hampshire Sheriff's Office, Rachel Senecal, from the Northwestern District Attorney's office and incoming TRIAD president, Jeannie Odiorne.



Officer Diana Gliniecki and K-9 Officer Sampson read "Officer Buckle and Gloria" by Peggy Rathmann to students at Stanley M. Kozioł Elementary School on Community Reading Day last Friday at Stanley M. Kozioł Elementary School.



Ware Junior Senior High School student Haley Radisic poses with her poster on the culture of India and the chicken curry she made for the school's first ethnic culture night.



Warren Cub Scout Pack 142 shows off their car creations at its Pinewood Derby. Front row (l-r) Ryder Sears, Keira Proulx. Back row (l-r) Aiden Galarneau, Cameron Hasenfus, Robert Menard Jr., Samuel LeClair.

Featured on the keyboard at last Sunday's Spicy Jazz event was Ware resident, Karla Newmark, an accomplished musician and teacher. The Ware Community Jazz Ensemble offered the free concert at Workshop13 in Ware.

2019

A YEAR IN PHOTOS

• APRIL •



▲ Visiting with the Easter Bunny, left to right, are siblings Andrew, 8, Annabella, 5, and Sophia, 10, Rheame, at the Easter Breakfast at St. Mary's in Ware.



▲ Jay Harder with his piece “#1 Stair Tower,” which won Best in Show in the New Views of Gilbertville photography contest. The winners were announced at a reception at the Town House.

Baystate Health Eastern Region President and Chief Administrative Officer Michael Moran gave thanks to those who have donated to the cancer center expansion, and talked about how important this expansion is for patients.



▲ From top to bottom are Alizee Janusz, Destiny Routhier, and Nicolette Janusz, as they pose with their Easter Baskets full of goodies from the Easter egg hunt at Ware Junior Senior High School last Saturday.



▲ Dawn Piechota, Sean Piechota and John Piechota were in attendance at the benefit at Gabe's for Sean on Saturday, who suffered severe burns on his hands after a trash barrel fire had an accelerator added to it. He used his hands to help beat out the flames on his friends. The family said they're overwhelmed by the support from the community.



▲ Emily Ladoux, Madison Garutti, Jessica Burke, Maraide McClure, Olivia McGrail, Kayla Grzywna, Lindsay Kularski and Shelby Tweedie were among the seniors that won first place for their “synchronized swimming routine” at the annual Ware High School Talent Show.



▲ Cub Scout Jaden Ruell crosses over to Boy Scouts during his Cub Scout Pack 239's Blue and Gold Banquet.



▲ Lexie Orszulak and Caitlin Hess crack eggs into a bowl to make scrambled eggs at the second annual Ware High School sophomore class breakfast at Gabe's.



▲ Barbara Swanson, Betsy Finch and Daphne Moulton with their mother, Hazel Turner, who turned 100 last April.

• MAY •



Mr. Gibbs, played by Laurie Whitney, goes to sample some poisoned elderberry wine as Abby Brewster, played by Deb Libera, tries to stop her nephew, Mortimer Brewster, played by Cameron Cocoran, from having any in “Arsenic and Old Lace,” put on by Ware Community Theater.



Jasmine Robinson, right, helps Alexz Stewart, from Belchertown High School with her monthly budget at the Credit Booth at the Credit For Life event at Ware High School.



Dakota Barnes pulled a 2,500 pound police truck to set a new record in the truck pull at Fitness Factory's Life For Life event, which is held in conjunction with a 5K road race. The proceeds benefit Mary Lane's oncology services.



The Ware Middle School sixth-grade band performed in front an audience in the Ware Junior Senior High School auditorium, playing songs by Beethoven. They played during last Wednesday's Evening with the Arts event.



State Rep. Todd Smola, R-Warren, gave a copy of the state's declaration of Memorial Day to John P. “Jake” Comer, a former national commander of the American Legion, during Ware's Memorial Day ceremony.



Parents and children have fun participating in the fourth Color Run, which was held by the Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School PTO and the Ware Middle School PTO, last Saturday morning. The money goes to help defray the cost of field trips and instructional supplies for teachers.

Ware Public Schools to Bring STEM Learning Labs to Middle School

Ware one of just three school systems in Massachusetts to participate in innovative educational program

The Ware Public Schools is proud to announce a partnership with i2 Learning to bring an innovative project-based curriculum into middle school classrooms.

Through this partnership with i2 Learning, Ware Middle School will run a series of immersive one week STEM programs in 2020 and then a full year interdisciplinary program in the 2021-22 school year. Ware teachers will work closely with i2 Learning in developing this program and will receive extensive professional development in project-based pedagogy and STEM curriculum. In addition, all materials, supplies, and training necessary for this program will be provided by i2 Learning at no cost to Ware as the entire program has been grant funded.

“We need to give students the skills to be successful in a rapidly changing world where tomorrow’s opportunities and challenges haven’t even been considered yet,” Superintendent Marlene DiLeo said. “Through this opportunity, our teachers will work in collaboration with i2 Learning trainers to develop curriculum immersed in authentic and relevant project-based learning across all content areas. This is a truly significant opportunity for our students and staff, one that will have a profound impact on our school.”

Ware is one of just three school systems in Massachusetts awarded this opportunity with i2 Learning. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and i2 Learning hope that this program in Ware will be an example of best practices in 21st century learning and can then be rolled out to other districts across the state.

With curriculum partners that include MIT, The Boston Children’s Museum, and The New York Hall of Science, i2 Learning provides hands-on, project-based learning in STEM courses such as “Building an Interactive Friendly Monster,” “Crash Test Engineering,” and “Surgical Techniques.”

Outside evaluations by Teachers College, Columbia University and EDC of previous i2 Learning programs have shown high levels of student engagement during classes and an increase in student interest in STEM and STEM careers after participating in the program.

i2 Learning supporters include Vertex Pharmaceuticals, MathWorks, The Shah Family Foundation, The Lynch Foundation, Massachusetts Life Sciences Center, and Spectrum Equity. To learn more about the i2 Learning program, visit i2learning.org

LOCAL

Opportunity IS KNOCKING

STAFF WRITER POSITION

Turley Publications is seeking an energetic person to fill the position of staff writer for two of its weekly publications: the *Ware River News*, which covers Ware, Hardwick and Warren, and the *Quabog Current*, which covers the Brookfields, Sturbridge and New Braintree. This full-time position is based in our Ware office at 80 Main St. The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills or the enthusiasm to develop them.

The staff writer will cover municipal meetings, features and general news; essentially everything that unfolds in small towns. Assignments will be for both newspapers as well as other companywide publications.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- Own camera and photography experience preferred
- Enthusiasm for community journalism
- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced environment

Please email resume and three writing samples directly to Eileen Kennedy Managing Editor at ekennedy@turley.com.

Turley Publications, Inc.
www.turley.com

2019

A YEAR IN PHOTOS

• MAY •



Quaboag Regional Middle High School music teacher James Joinville conducted the Quaboag Wind Ensemble during their performance of "Highlights from 'Black Panther,' during the school's art and concert night.



Penny Nicholas read a few remarks as she said good-bye to the Rev. Charles Taylor during a luncheon for him Sunday at the United Church of Ware. He served the church for seven years and has retired to Florida to join his wife.



Ware Junior Senior High School students line up in front of the crowd filled with friends and family at Promenade in the school gym before heading off to their senior prom.



A youngster is pretty pleased with the amount of trash he and his family helped pick up throughout town during the Great Ware Cleanup.



Jack Hinckley's wife, Pam, revealed the plaque in honor of her husband at Warren Pumps, where he worked for 33 years. It will grace the company's new test lab and help keep his memory alive.

Canterbury Tails

Veterinary Clinic

Rebecca Volk - Certified Veterinary Technician

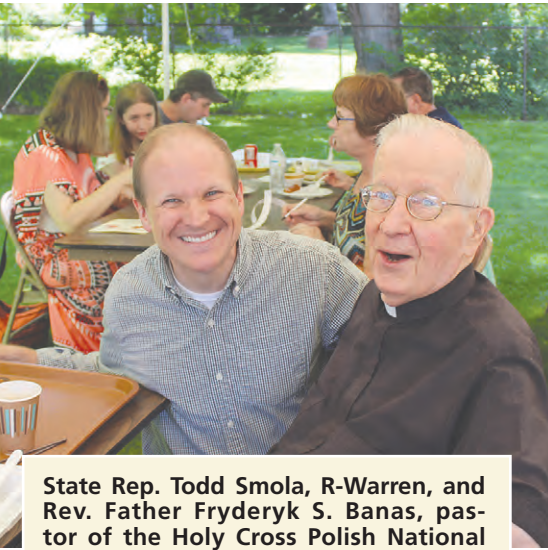
Rebecca majored in Animal Science at USC Aiken and graduated with a degree in Equine Studies in 2010. While working at our Belchertown location, she graduated from HCC in 2015 with a certification in Veterinary technology. She is certified in emergency and critical care and has worked at VCA Boston Road and NEVCCC. When she is not traveling the East Coast with her son for hockey, she enjoys hiking, fishing, and spending time with her significant other. She is an avid equestrian and loves her fur babies, Remington and Ruger her canine companions, more than anything. Rebecca strives to make each visit pleasant and stress free for pets and owners alike.



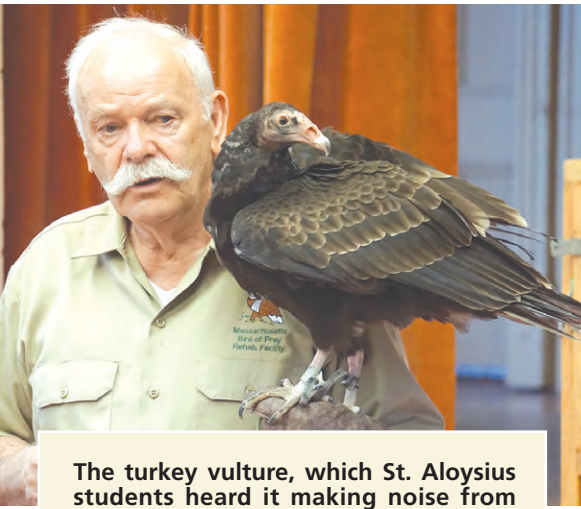
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413-967-4545 • canterburytailsware@gmail.com

Mon., Wed., Thurs. 7:30-6pm, Tues. 12-8pm, Fri. 7:30-12 noon
Every Other Saturday 7:30-12

• JUNE •



State Rep. Todd Smola, R-Warren, and Rev. Father Fryderyk S. Banas, pastor of the Holy Cross Polish National Catholic Church, in Ware, enjoy a laugh together at last Sunday's annual summer picnic.



The turkey vulture, which St. Aloysius students heard it making noise from its enclosed box, stands still for a moment after being perched on Tom Ricardi's hand.



Seven-year-old Brynn Kelly works hard on her Rube Goldberg machine during Hardwick's Paige Memorial Library's summer reading kick-off event, Playful Engineers.



A number of communities with police motorcycles were on hand to let students at Hardwick Elementary School see the bikes up close and discussed when they are used during Public Safety Day.



From left to right, Bill Leslie, Kelly Frazier, Kris Lynch, Mark Lynch, Josh Lynch, and John Hawes stand outside This N That 2 with their motorcycles during Ware's Bike Night.



Ware Junior Senior High School Principal Edwin Ramos speaks to the class of 2019 before presenting them with their diplomas.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.



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~ John D., Ware

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~ Leslie H., W. Brookfield

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Quabbin hockey players team up with Gardner

By Karen A. Lewis
Sports Correspondent

GARDNER - With the new year upon us and a new winter season, the Gardner co-op hockey team is ready for the uphill climb.

"I believe that we are still in the midst of rebuilding the foundation of our program," said Gardner hockey coach, Scott Freniere. "During my first year, we tried to instill a new culture of collaboration and an environment that focuses on ensuring everyone has the basic fundamentals of the game down, and we have fun doing it at the same time."

Freniere admitted it's a challenging task that is still being worked out.

"I think we will be in more games competitively and we have our focus set on getting a win for the first time in a long period of time," Freniere said.

After a 0-20 season last year, the only way to go is up – and Freniere and crew are hoping to do that with a large roster of players (27) hailing from four different schools – Gardner, Murdock, Narragansett and Quabbin.

"We have had our challenges so far," Freniere said. "We were pleased with the participation numbers as they have steadily increased over the last two years and we anticipate that to be a growing trend for our program."

One of the downsides of having such a large roster – finding sufficient ice time to meet the needs of all the players.

"It presents complications for practice, but that is something we have grown accustomed to now and we're trying to address it because we want to welcome all into our program," stated Freniere.

Although Gardner only has a varsity team, there have been instances when ice time

Please see **HOCKEY**, page 8

Indians out to perfect start



Olivia Vadnais attempts to stay inbounds.



Chelsea Orszulak opts for a pass instead of shooting.



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Audrey LaValley gets ready to make a mid-range jumper.

WARE – The Ware High School girls basketball team is already well on its way to another tournament appearance. The Indians are out to a 3-0 start. Their second win was a 47-38 decision at Southwick Regional School on Dec. 19. Olivia Vadnais led the Indians with 11 points while Chelsea Orszulak contributed 10 points and Lexie Orszulak had nine points. The Indians return to action on Jan. 3 against Palmer at 7 p.m.



Aidyn Welsh takes a shot from short range.



Amelia Bonnager takes the open shot.

Statewide tournament could replace regional tourneys

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – Worcester North vs. Chicopee? Nipmuc vs. Belchertown? Perhaps Minnechaug vs. Boston Public, or maybe the little town of Mashpee vs. Granby?

These matchups could all soon be reality after the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association endorsed a statewide tournament proposal at its most recent meeting.

The change could bring a completely overhaul to the alignments used in current Massachusetts interscholastic sports.

Sean Mackin, athletic director for Chicopee's high school, Chicopee High and Chicopee Comprehensive, said the proposal is likely to pass at the state level, potentially changing things in a big way for Western Massachusetts Schools.

"It's something that is probably going to happen," said Mackin, who is a member of the Tournament Management Committee.

According to the proposal, a statewide tournament would be invoked, involving up to 32 or more teams in a given division. It would create an "equal path" to a championship, according to the proposal, and there would be an assured way that schools would play "like-sized" schools.

It would also create a uniform format for tournament play in the entire state.

Opponents and skeptics in Western Massachusetts, however, are fearful of losing the Western Massachusetts Tournament, where now, the champion goes on to a small state tournament to face that division's sectional champion.

Please see **TOURNEY**, page 8

Sisters balance life, beam

By Karen A. Lewis
Sports Correspondent

OAKHAM - Gymnastics has become a way of life for the Gatulis sisters of Oakham, and they wouldn't have it any other way.

"Some of my best memories at gymnastics are just spending time with my teammates at practice," said Quabbin sophomore Emma Gatulis, with her younger sister, Quabbin seventh grader Ruby in agreement.

"Some of my favorite memories are at the gym, having fun at practice, laughing with my teammates and competing in meets," Ruby Gatulis said.

It's certainly been a juggling act

for the pair of siblings, first shuttling from Barre (where they used to live) to Sterling Gymnastics. Over the last five or so years, they made the transition from their new home in Oakham to Meridian Gymnastics in Gardner.

It's definitely a juggling act they do well.

Practicing on average nine hours a week – 3.25 hours for two days and 2.5 hours an additional day, playing school sports, participating in the school music program, and still managing to find time to get homework completed while getting good grades is a testament to their time management skills.

"Gymnastics has taught them both how to prioritize their time," mother Jessica Gatulis said. "They are better students because of the discipline they learn through the sport. They know school comes first, so they learn to utilize free time at school, and in the car to get all of their work done. The team is such a good social support system for them, it makes it all worth it."

Gravitating to gymnastics seemed like the natural track to take for her daughters, according to Mrs. Gatulis.

"Emma was always climbing everything, and challenging herself with monkey bars, etc.," Jessica Gatulis said. "She started out doing a karate/gymnastics class at age three; and continued straight into gymnastics."

And where the older sister goes, the younger sister followed, proving to also have a knack for the sport.



Submitted photos
Emma Gatulis shows incredible form during her floor routine last weekend.

Please see **SISTERS**, page 8



Joe Chalons starts to grapple in his contest.



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Emmett Seibert wrestles for the Pioneers. He was defeated in his match.

Pioneers double up Tigers wrestling

PALMER – On Dec. 18, the Pathfinder wrestling team opened up dual meet action with a 36-18 win over South Hadley High School. There were only six actual matches

in the contest, with each team splitting the matches. Pathfinder also had wins on three forfeits. Joe Chalons and Markys Lissant recorded pins for the victors.



Markys Lissant goes for the pin.



Hayden Richer takes the advantage early in his match.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Ware High School			
Boys Basketball			
Friday, Jan. 3	Away	Renaissance	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Home	Southwick	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 8	Away	Palmer	7 p.m.
Girls Basketball			
Friday, Jan. 3	Away	Palmer	7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 6	Away	Putnam	7 p.m.

Quaboag Regional High School			
Boys Basketball			
Friday, Jan. 3	Home	Millbury	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Away	Uxbridge	6:30 p.m.
Girls Basketball			
Thursday, Jan. 2	Away	Millbury	6:30 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 6	Home	Uxbridge	6:30 p.m.
Indoor Track			
Wednesday, Jan 8	Away	Quad-Meet	5:30 p.m.

Quabbin Regional High School			
Boys Basketball			
Friday, Jan. 3	Away	Gardner	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Away	Clinton	7 p.m.
Girls Basketball			
Friday, Jan. 3	Home	Gardner	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Home	Clinton	7 p.m.
Indoor Track			
Wednesday, Jan. 8	Away	Meet	2 5 p.m.
Wrestling			
Saturday, Jan. 4	Away	North Attleboro (quad-meet)	10 a.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 8	Away	Minnechaug	6:30 p.m.

Pathfinder High School			
Boys Basketball			
Thursday, Jan. 2	Home	Bay Path	7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 6	Away	Franklin Tech	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Away	Duggan	6:30 p.m.
Girls Basketball			
Thursday, Jan. 2	Away	Sci-Tech	7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 6	Home	Renaissance	7 p.m.
Wrestling			
Thursday, Jan. 2	Away	Granby	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 8	Home	Mohawk	6 p.m.

HOCKEY from page 7

is scheduled for the Wildcats and area JV teams to scrimmage, giving opportunities to those players who do not see game time ice to play.

“Our lineups feature mainly seniors and sophomores,” Freniere said. “In total we have five seniors. We’re in a good place with a lot of underclassmen getting ice time, learning from our more experienced players. It sets up two good years where we will have the bulk of our talent being retained.”

The other advantage the Gardner team has, is that almost all the players participate in additional year round hockey teams including the Sting, the Junior Railers, theTwin City Hawks and the Minutemen Flames.

Gardner senior Ben Savoie has been selected captain this year with assistant captains Gardner senior Michael Ouellet, Murdock junior Philip Quinn and Quabbin sophomore Jamison Howland.

“This year we’re looking to rely on Jamison Howland, Aidan Prentiss, Michael Ouellet and Josh Garrity to carry some of the offense for us,” Freniere said. “They all have different skills offensively and as we go through the year, they will all get more comfortable and start to put up some goals. On defense we have Matthew Marshall and Philip Quinn who have been solid backbone defensemen for us, that we know we can rely on, game in and game out.”

Along with Howland from Quabbin, other Panthers who have transitioned to Wildcats for the hockey season include senior Matthew Shepard, sophomores Howland, Prentiss, Brodie White and Jake Samaha, freshman Zachary Boucher and eighth grader Sean LaPointe.

Naragansett senior Alex LaFreniere and Murdock eighth grader, Mark Quinn, brother of Philip who is on the team, will both pad up and assume the role of goalie this season.

SISTERS from page 7

“I don’t really mind doing gymnastics with my sister, it’s pretty fun because we have a lot of the same friends,” explained Ruby Gatulis.

Meridian Coach Kelsey Joyal has been coaching Ruby for five years and Emma for four, because of Emma’s desire to stay with Sterling Gymnastics for the additional year to be with close friends.

“Emma is such an easy going, go with the flow type of person,” said Joyal. “She is extremely helpful to both her teammates and her coaches. She will set her mind to something and not stop until the task is complete. Emma can also be very competitive, which is a good quality to have as a gymnast.”

Joyal shared there are two competitive team programs offered at Meridian – the Junior Olympic Program and the Xcel team, which allows gymnasts to progress at their own pace and to be more challenged on certain events.

Within Xcel there are levels – and both Gatulis girls improved and moved to higher

levels in Xcel this year.

“Emma is in Xcel Platinum (4th) Division,” stated Joyal. “She completes quite difficult skills that take many years of training to successfully master. She is also very creative which makes her routines very unique.”

“Ruby moved up to Xcel Gold this year and is adjusting very well,” continued Joyal, mentioning Ruby’s kindness, humor and helpful attitude. “Ruby did very well at this past year’s competitions. At one of the meets she placed first in her division as well as scoring her highest all around score in her gymnastic career.”

Although gymnastics is a year long activity and the gymnasts train during the summer, the competition season runs from November through May, with tournaments usually once a month around the state, and one “travel” meet per year that could be as far as Florida or California. This year the Xcel Team will be traveling to Connecticut.

Both Gatulis young women compete in all four events, the vault, uneven bars, balance beam and floor exercise.

Ironically both shared the uneven bars is

Cranston returns to bolster youth wrestling

By Karen A. Lewis
Sports Correspondent

BARRE - A familiar face is back gracing the halls of Quabbin Regional High School. Some could call him a living legacy in the world of high school wrestling, many call him a friend.

Fran Cranston has returned to share his expertise with some lucky Panther junior high and high school athletes as he has recently assumed the position of the middle school wrestling coach, working with current high school varsity wrestling coach Mike Adams.

“Retirement has made me come back to Quabbin,” said Cranston. “Honestly – too much time on my hands. I missed the athletic interaction with kids.”

It is no wonder. Cranston’s impressive coaching career spans over three decades, as he was the Panther’s varsity coach from 1980 through 2006. During that time, he and his team won states in 1987 and 2004, and were the state runner ups in 1981, 1986 and 1997.

“Quabbin has a very strong winning tradition in wrestling,” stated Cranston. “From 1974 to 2010, Quabbin had winning seasons every year but one, and that season was 8-9. Wrestling has always been ferociously popular at Quabbin.”

Cranston knows from experience, being a Panther wrestler

during his Quabbin high school years up until his graduation in 1975. From there he attended the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester and came back to coach in 1980.

“I never taught at Quabbin,” explained Cranston. “Much of my early career I was in the insurance business. I went to work at Quabbin as Athletic Director from 2001 to 2004. I left to start teaching, and taught grade six science in Gardner for a couple of years. Then I went to Worcester to teach middle school math; and retired in June.”

Although Cranston has been away for a bit, it was obvious wrestling has remained a part of who he is.

“I think it is great that Fran decided to come back and be part of the program again,” Quabbin varsity coach Mike Adams said. “It is a testament to his love for the sport and the program. He has so much experience, value and knowledge that he brings, which is great.”

Cranston’s reputation is well known beyond the Quabbin area as he was awarded numerous coaching honors including the Massachusetts Coach of the Year in 1986, 1987 and 2004, the Boston Globe Division 2 Coach of the Year in 1995, the NFICA Distinguished Service Award in 1988, named to the Mass. High School Wrestling Hall of Fame in



Photo by Karen A. Lewis
Returning Quabbin wrestling coach Fran Cranston works with youth wrestlers Cole Wilson (left) and Kenny Stogitis at practice.

2001, inducted into the Quabbin Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009 and honored with a Lifetime Service to Wrestling in 2011.

“We have many of the same views when it comes to coaching and what we see,” remarked Adams. “We have been able to bounce ideas off each other and

HoopHall set to take place this month at Springfield College

SPRINGFIELD — The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame announced today the field of teams and game schedule for the 2020 Spalding Hoophall Classic presented by Eastbay, an annual basketball showcase now in its nineteenth year at Springfield College. Games will be played at Blake Arena on the campus of Springfield College Jan. 16-20, 2020, during Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend.

The nation’s premier basketball event will once again showcase the country’s elite high school basketball teams. This year’s top matchups include Paul VI High School (Va.) vs. Sierra Canyon School

(Calif.), DeMatha Catholic High School (Md.) and Rancho Christian School (Calif.), Oak Hill Academy (Va.) vs. Bishop Gorman High School (Nev.), Montverde Academy (Fla.) vs. IMG Academy (Fla.). Complete broadcast information will be released at a later date.

“The Basketball Hall of Fame is proud to continue its longstanding tradition of hosting the top players and programs in the country in the Birthplace of Basketball,” said John L. Doleva, President and CEO of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. “This event has continued to elevate year-over-year and we greatly appreciate the support of the fans and our partners, Spalding

and Eastbay along with our tremendous hosts at Springfield College. The Hall of Fame is proud to host one of the most storied high school showcases in the country, while celebrating the game and allowing its participants to visit our world-class museum.”

“Hoophall Classic is a historic showcase that delivers joy and excitement to fans nationwide. As a leader in the basketball category, we are proud of our long-standing partnership with the Basketball Hall of Fame as the official ball of the Hoophall Classic,” said Jack Marquardt, VP Brand Communications, Spalding. “Every year, the event is filled with future stars, electrifying games and fan engagement. This year’s schedule will carry on that legacy, and we’re grateful to be involved.”

“With strong roots in basketball, Eastbay is proud to continue its partnership with Hoophall Classic to celebrate these best-in-class young athletes,” said Jason Brown, VP of Marketing for Eastbay and Champs Sports. “The teams and players participating are truly the future of the sport and are already inspiring the next generation. I have no doubt we’ll see another

work really well in terms of working with the athletes and looking at the end goal for each individual and team.”

Quabbin A.D. Mark Miville is thrilled to have Cranston back on staff.

“Fran was a fixture in the Quabbin wrestling program for so many years,” said Miville. “He now has children of his former players in the system and will help to build back the program through middle school participation. We lost the middle school program due to budget cuts four years ago and started feeling the effects immediately.”

“Regaining the middle school program will increase participation down the road, but it takes time,” continued Miville. “There is no one more qualified to help do that than Fran. So happy to have him back in the coaching ranks.”

Cranston himself is happy to be coaching, working with the athletes and Adams, and immersed in the Quabbin school community again. He is committed to growing the wrestling program and invited any interested students to check the team out. Late registrations are allowed this year for the team.

“How can you not have fun doing sports with kids?” Cranston concluded. “I’m having a great time. More things are the same than have changed.”

Ludlow announces alumni game

LUDLOW – Attention all former LHS boys and girls basketball players. Do you still have Game? Relive your high school days at our Alumni Game Saturday, Jan. 4, at 10 a.m. Cost \$10 all proceeds will

help support the girls and boys basketball programs. Register today on FamilyID https://www.familyid.com/programs/basketball-alumni-game or contact Tim Brillo t_brillo@lud-lowps.org

TOURNEY from page 7

on. The state is currently divided into four regions, West, Central, Northeast, and Southeast.

David Stratton, athletic director at Agawam High School, is just one administrator in Western Mass. that has concerns about the proposal.

“We really like our Western Mass. tournament here,” said Stratton. “A lot of people do not want to lose it.”

Stratton said it is possible, however, that in the region, the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Association, which governs local league play and school participation in sports, could hold its own tournaments prior to the state tournament.

South regions go by records with tiebreakers for teams with the same records.

In order to balance the competition throughout the state, it appears a fifth division would be added. Currently, most Massachusetts sports like soccer, basketball, and baseball utilize four divisions. Football currently has eight. A fifth division could likely move many Western Mass. teams currently in Division 1 down to Division 2. Division 3 and 4 teams would likely move to 4 and 5, respectively, Stratton estimates.

The proposal suggests there would be five divisions for baseball, soccer, softball, basketball, football, and even girls volleyball. There would be four divisions for tennis, lacrosse, and field hockey,

three divisions for ice hockey, and two divisions for boys volleyball.

Travel is another logistic Western Mass. schools are nervous about in a state tourney format. For instance, if a Berkshire team like Wahconah or Pittsfield has to travel to the Cape. That could be a four-hour ride for that team in either direction.

“I’d have to dismiss my kids very early to do that,” said Stratton. “And that’s a long bus ride and then to get out and play.”

According to the proposal, the higher seed would host playoff games in the first three rounds of a potential 32-team tournament.

The statewide tournament is coming to a vote at a special meeting in February. It’s unclear if the proposal would be put in place for fall 2020, or fall 2021.



Submitted photo
Ruby Gatulis gets into her floor routine at weekend's competition.

their favorite event, with Ruby adding she has performed well on the vault.

Joyal made sure to mention Emma had a great showing last year, placing second at State Cup and fifth at State Championship, both highly competitive and requiring being able to qualify to participate.

This past weekend both Gatulis athletes participated with their teams in the Shen’s New England Holiday Classic at Worcester State University. Emma earned fourth overall and her team, Excel Plantinum, walked away with a first place victory.

One of the amazing things about the Gatulis’ involvement with gymnastics is the allowance for them to also participate in scholastic sports, an opportunity that is unfortunately becoming more rare for the year-round sport participant. Emma has been a member of the Quabbin cross-country team in the fall and is currently involved with winter track and will register for spring track soon. Ruby played on Quabbin’s middle school soccer team this past fall.

Looking into the future, both young women know that although they are strong, well trained and talented gymnasts, the

level of ability is extremely high for participation on college teams, but both hope to continue on some level after high school.

“I would love to continue gymnastics after I graduate high school if I’m able to,” said Emma Gatulis with her sister in agreement. “I could probably continue in college, but I don’t think my skills will be advanced enough to be on a competitive team at that level.”

The Gatulis parents are proud of their daughters, will support whatever choices they make regarding gymnastics and have been happy for their involvement with the sport.

“I will always remember that it taught my girls how to work hard for something, and attain a goal,” concluded Jessica Gatulis. “They also learned the valuable lesson of how to fail, and then try again. The discipline, strength and mental fortitude that goes into a year-round sport is astounding to me. I have such admiration for how hard all the girls work on the team, and how they support one another at each meet.”

obituaries

2019

A YEAR IN PHOTOS

• JULY •



Six-month old Bella cools off in the shade by the new rail trail near Frohloff Farm, in Ware, as part of the East Quabbin Land Trust's Forever Farm Tour this past weekend.



Blake Lopato from North Brookfield protects the ball when playing Bomb at Nerf Wars. The event is held to raise money for a new playground in Greenville Park.

Marion, Evelyn and Matt Palladian cheer on their mom and wife, Elena, who took part in the Sparkle Run 5K in Ware. The event raises money for local nonprofits.



Magician Ed Popielarczyk creates balloon characters for the kids, like an alien with a ray gun, during a recent visit to the Young Men's Library Association in Ware.



Capt. Joseph Wood from the Hardwick Fire Department shows his son, Robert, around his truck during the fifth anniversary celebration of the New Braintree Regional Communication Center.

• AUGUST •



Purple Heart recipient Rodney Perkins shares a laugh with his great-grandchildren Grace, 3, and Graeme Hastings, 5, from Indiana.



Alida Snosk, of Johnny's Hot Dogs and Catering, offered a quick dinner option through the evenings events.



From left to right: Aubry Clark, 3, Victoria Moryl, 2, Juliana Moryl, 3, and Madison Moryl, 5, spend the day at the Shriner's family fun day last Sunday at the organization's hall and pavilion on West Main Street.

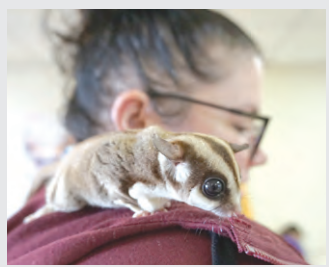
Volunteer Philip Woodford deposits the rubber ducks into the river at the start of the duck race to benefit the Friends of the Warren Town Hall. The money will go toward projects to fix up the former Town Hall building, which now houses the Police Department.



From left to right: Ben Metcalf, Anna Metcalf, Hannah LaRoche, Trace Davin and Devon Bjorklund, members of the Hardwick 4-H organization, Farmtastic Beats, hold some of their farm animals at their tent at the Hardwick Fair.



Lola Dumont, 7, and her mom, Melissa, of Ware gets ready for the full race in her unicorn-themed ride during the Ware Junior Car Show, where children ride their power wheels to benefit the Ware Family Center.



Katrina Fidalgo's sugar glider, Gizmo, takes a look into the camera, during an open house of Canterbury Tales, which is under new ownership. Dr. Leah Greenberger bought the practice and is now operating it.

The newly-renovated Charbonneau Funeral Home on Pleasant Street in Ware opened its doors to the community.



From left to right, "NoLo" Jim Bradford, Kimberly Fish, "Kuku" Bill Blodgett, Denise Blodgett, Mauren Dunbar, "Oh Granny" Linda Halbrook and Jim Allard stand in front of their popular clown bus at the annual Clown Car Show.

William F. Floury

WARREN – William F. "Bill" Floury, 79, of Warren, died unexpectedly on Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2019, at Baystate Mary Lane Hospital.

He leaves his son, Brett Floury, and his wife, Teresa, of Hampton, Georgia; his grandson, Carl Floury; three sisters, Barbara Potter, Marilyn Lamb, and her husband, Roger, Linda Dumas, and her husband, Richard, and his brother, Richard Floury, all of Warren, many nieces and nephews who adored their uncle Bill, as well as his best friend, Billy Byrnes, of Bondsville. Bill was predeceased by his long-time companion, Ruth Miner, and he will be missed by her family and friends. He was born in Ware, son of the late Ralph F. and Florence M. (Carbonneau) Floury.

Bill was a kind, fun loving man who was well known for being a bit of a prankster. He enjoyed dining out, especially with family and his friends, his



Death notices

Floury, William F.
Died Dec. 24, 2019
Services will be held at a later date
Varnum Funeral Home
West Brookfield

Jurczyk, Josephine
Died Dec. 16, 2019
Mass of Christian Burial Dec. 21, 2019
St. Mary's Church
Ware

Robitaille, Elizabeth J. (Long)
Died Dec. 17, 2019
Services will be private
Varnum Funeral Home
West Brookfield

daily coffee at the local package store in town and playing dominoes with his family. Anyone who knew Bill will be saddened by his passing.

Mr. Floury was a United States Navy veteran of the Vietnam era.

Services will be held at a later date. Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield, is assisting his family with arrangements

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com.

Josephine H. Jurczyk

WARE – With her family by her side, Josephine H. Jurczyk passed away on Monday, Dec. 16, 2019. She was born in Three Rivers on Aug. 12, 1928, to the late Joseph and Antonina (Milewski) Kowalczyk; her father dying a few months before she was born.

She was a graduate of both St. Peter and Paul School and Palmer High School. She met Joseph M. Jurczyk from Ware, and the wedding was planned for April of 1948. However, on the way to pick up the wedding cake, the couple and groomsmen, Stanley Roj, were involved in a motor vehicle accident and the wedding was postponed until Aug. 1, 1948. They resided in Ware and enjoyed 42 years of married life.

Faith was very important to

Josephine as was St. Mary's School and the Daughters of Mary of the Immaculate Conception. She was a eucharistic minister, a member of the Rosary Sodality and St. Mary's Ladies Guild. She had been very involved in the yearly Carnival; in retirement she became a pierogi lady. Josephine worked in the Ware Knitters, Ware Shoe Shop and lastly at Mary Lane Hospital in admitting, a job she truly enjoyed. Her bilingual skill, English and Polish, was used many times to help patients and their families.

Josephine leaves her three daughters: Jane Saletnik, Lorraine (Michael) Robidoux and Kathleen Wheeler. She also leaves six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. She also leaves her sister-



in-law, Mary Gruszczynski. Sadly, she was predeceased by her husband, Joseph, in 1990, three sons-in-law: Andre Cloutier, Gabriel Saletnik and Alan Wheeler, her two brothers: Joseph and Stanley Kowalczyk, and her two sisters: Mary Brodeur and Janet Dunay.

Calling hours were held on Friday, Dec. 20, from 4 to 7 p.m., in the Cebula Funeral Home Chapel, 66 South St., in Ware. A Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 10:30 a.m., in St. Mary's Church, Ware. Friends and Family were asked to meet directly at the church on Saturday morning.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Daughters of Mary of the Immaculate Conception, 319 Osgood Ave., New Britain, CT, 06053 or St. Mary's Church, 60 South St., Ware, MA 01082.

Elizabeth Robitaille

WEST BROOKFIELD – Elizabeth "Betty" Jane (Long) Robitaille, 87, of West Brookfield, embarked on her final journey, Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2019, with her loving family close by and forever with her.

Her husband, Alfred "Fred" Robitaille, married 40 years, predeceased her earlier this year in January. Betty leaves five heartbroken Crockett children, two boys and three girls, and a predeceased infant son. She also leaves all her children's life partners, and spouses, whom she adored. Her two stepsons, and their companions in life and predeceased stepdaughter and two stepsons. Gram to six grandchildren, seven step-grandchildren and Great Gram to four great-grandchildren, whom she cherished everyday of her life, and for eternity. She also leaves her brother, his wife and their family. She was also well-known as the "High Muckymuck," and just "Ma" to many kids in town, when her children were growing up. Some may still remember the antics of the clubhouse gang.

She was a proud 1954 grad-

uate of The School of Nursing of The Children's Hospital in Boston. She had a long 30-year career at Mary Lane Hospital. Her nursing skills were broad as she functioned in all patient care areas throughout her career and retiring from Surgical Services and Post-Anesthesia practices in 1994. Her compassion for patients of all ages, including their families, was a quality for which she was best known. She was well respected by physicians and coworkers, and made lifelong friendships whose stories brought laughter and smiles whenever told. However, her children remembered it differently, "nursing with no mercy, put a band-aid on it and get back outside!" as recently recalled by a childhood family friend.

Betty donated a wonderful legacy of many acres to Quaboag Wildlife Management Area on Long Hill Road in West Brookfield, known by the family as 'The Farm.' This land is considered by Audubon to be a top IBA (Important Bird

Area) and contains Worcester County's most extensive cattail marshes.

Betty loved her family and friends, her dog Lily, and enjoyed gardening. An accomplished knitter all her life, she made Christmas stockings for family members, and with the Busy Bees, knitting blankets for Camp Putnam, and many other charitable organizations wherever they were needed. In retirement she loved to read on the boat while Fred fished and spent many winters in Florida, during the cold winter months of New England.

Betty's request was to have a private family service at a later date.

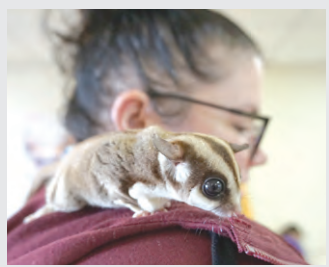
In lieu of flowers, donations in Betty's name may be sent to Overlook Hospice, 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton, MA 01507

Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield, is assisting her family with arrangements.

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com.



• SEPTEMBER •



Katrina Fidalgo's sugar glider, Gizmo, takes a look into the camera, during an open house of Canterbury Tales, which is under new ownership. Dr. Leah Greenberger bought the practice and is now operating it.

The newly-renovated Charbonneau Funeral Home on Pleasant Street in Ware opened its doors to the community.



From left to right, "NoLo" Jim Bradford, Kimberly Fish, "Kuku" Bill Blodgett, Denise Blodgett, Mauren Dunbar, "Oh Granny" Linda Halbrook and Jim Allard stand in front of their popular clown bus at the annual Clown Car Show.

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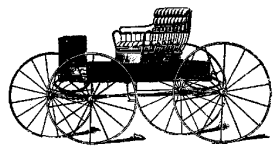
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IMMEDIATE OPENING FOR Oil Truck Driver for home heating deliveries. Class B license, Air Brakes, Hazmat and Tanker Endorsements a must!! Full time position with opportunity to learn HVAC business during off season. Please call **413-323-4123** between the hours of 9 and 3.

TOWN OF PALMER- MECHANIC - EQUIPMENT OPERATOR:
The Town of Palmer is seeking a Semi-skilled to skilled manual work performing journey-man level maintenance and repairs and operating light to heavy automotive construction and maintenance equipment at the Palmer Highway Department; related work as required. Thorough knowledge of Highway Department operating procedures and highway, street and road system. Ability to make equipment repairs and recognizes the reason (s) for malfunctioning of equipment units. Skill at the journeyman level in automotive mechanics and welding required for repairs to heavy automotive construction and maintenance equipment. Special Qualifications: Possession of Class II Massachusetts Motor Vehicle Operator's License, (CDL). Possession of Hoisting License issued by the Department of Public Safety. For full job description, please go to www.townofpalmer.com.

Please submit resume and letter of interest or Town application to Town Manager's Office, 4417 Main Street, Palmer MA 01069. Application can be mailed to 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or by emailing rmcnutt@townofpalmer.com. Open until filled.

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR PART-TIME EMERGENCY DISPATCHER
For application and more information please visit www.wilbraham-ma.gov. Application deadline 1/31/20 at 4:30 PM. EOE

United Personnel UNITED PERSONNEL is seeking 2nd shift Trimming Operators for Sanderson Macleod in Palmer. Ideal candidates have longevity in their work history and ability to work in a fast-paced environment This is a great opportunity to get in on the ground level. Please call (413) 736-0800 for more information

REAL ESTATE COMMERCIAL RENTALS
GARAGE, 1 MILE FROM MA Pike, Palmer- dry storage 2100 sq. with Canopy area for larger vehicle storage. Only little work allowed. 110 power. 1 yr. lease. Avail. Jan. 1, to qualified tenant with references. \$700/mo. + electric. **413-348-9335**

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ALL real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD" toll-free at 1-800-869-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Classified Advertising DEADLINES

QUABBIN & SUBURBAN FRIDAY AT NOON

HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON



ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.



\$12.50 Each

2019

A YEAR IN PHOTOS

• OCTOBER •



Quaboag Regional Middle High School students get ready for the Powder Puff game that was part of the homecoming pep rally.



Boy Scouts from Troop 281 volunteered collecting donations for the Jubilee Cupboard.



Ware High School football players parade down Main Street after their big win over Palmer.



Lilliana, 5, and her sister Olivia, 9, as Jack Skellington and Sally, with their aunt, Allison Bailey, as Oogie Boogie from The Nightmare Before Christmas at the Halloween festivities at Warrem Community Elementary School.



Brothers Demitri, Andrew and Tyler Bonilla dressed up as the invisible man, a man in a box and Santa Claus for Halloween during Ware's Halloween Parade.

• NOVEMBER •



Veteran Frank Nevue, of Ware, enjoys his breakfast with a group of friends at the Military Appreciation Breakfast held by the Brookfield Institute at the Ware Senior Center.



Warren Community Elementary School students acted out various readings on the difficulties and importance of being a veteran, and how veterans' family members weather their military service.



Members of the Knights of Columbus march in Ware's Veterans Day parade.

• DECEMBER •

Santa arrives by fire truck to the 24th Annual Tree Lighting Festival in Warren Center last month.



Polli McCrystal, standing next to the tree decorated with memorabilia from Mt. Carmel Church, holds a photo of Mr. and Mrs. "Stick" Chrabasz on their wedding day, at the Ware Tree & Wreath Festival.



An older Scout helps a younger Scout during a recent Court of Honor for Ware Boy Scout Troop 281.



There were nine different chilis to sample at the first chili-off fundraiser for the Ware Junior Senior High class of 2024 on Saturday. They are fundraising for their future trip to Washington, D.C.



Students of Quaboag Middle School teacher Joe Salvadore's seventh grade history class group together for a picture under the Veteran's Wall at Quaboag.



Teresa Mazik with her father, Steven Saletnik's painting "Looking Back." The painting is part of the Perspectives on Military Service at Artworks held in Ware.

public notices

LEGAL NOTICE TOWNS OF WARE Public Hearing – Monday, January 13, 2020 6:30 PM in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Ware Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA Proposed FY 2020 CDBG Application

The Ware Community Development Authority will conduct a Public Hearing on **January 13, 2020 at 6:30 PM in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Ware Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA** regarding a proposed FY2020 application by the Town of Ware to the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development for up to \$800,000 million in Community Development Block Grant funds. The application will seek funds for the following projects:

- Bank Street Improvement Project
- Public Social Services

If awarded, the Town of Ware will be responsible for administration of the grant program, with assistance from the Pioneer Valley Planning

Commission.

These projects were identified as priorities that are consistent with the town's Community Development Strategy and the state's sustainable development principles.

All persons with questions or comments regarding the grant application will have an opportunity to be heard. Persons who require special accommodations to attend the hearing should contact the Town at (413) 967-9648, ext 120 several days prior to the hearing. For further information, contact Ted Harvey at PVPC at (413) 781-6045 or tharvey@pvpc.org. 1/02/2020

ADVERTISEMENT: REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS Town of Hardwick New Braintree Road Improvement Project

The Town of Hardwick has been awarded funds from the FY 2019 Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development Block Grant Project. Professional engineering design services are needed for the infrastructure improvement project on New Braintree Road.

A more detailed Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is available at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 60 Congress Street, Springfield, MA 01104, (413) 781-6045, from 9 AM to 5 PM. The RFQ will be available from the time of this notice until the due date specified below in digital format by request from the receptionist, Sue Ortiz at sor-tiz@pvpc.org. The Town of Hardwick, awarding and contracting authority, reserves the right to reject any and all proposals if it is deemed in the best interests of the Town to do so.

Completed proposals are to be submitted no later than 3:00 PM, Thursday, January 23, 2020 at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 60 Congress Street – 1st Floor, Springfield, MA 01104-3419. 1/02/2020

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 87 Church Street, Ware, Massachusetts 01082

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Nicole

Sicard and Jason Shute to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Academy Mortgage Corporation, said mortgage dated July 31, 2017, and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, in Book 12703 at Page 319 and now held by Freedom Mortgage Corporation by virtue of an assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Academy Mortgage Corporation to Freedom Mortgage Corporation, dated October 22, 2018 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, in Book 13107 at Page 23 for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, will be sold at Public Auction on **January 17, 2020 at 12:00 PM Local Time** upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

EXHIBIT A
The land in said Ware, together with any and all buildings situated thereon more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point on the easterly line of Church Street, at the north-

westerly corner of land of the Town of Ware, known as "Grenville Park";

THENCE Northerly on the easterly line of said Church Street, seventy-six and 7/10ths (76.7) feet, more or less, to land now or formerly of Helen A. Brennan, as described in deed dated May 2, 1913, and recorded with Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 691, Page 101; ..

THENCE S. 52° 11' E., along last named land, two hundred twenty (220) feet, more or less, to an iron pin in line of land of Grenville Park, aforesaid;

THENCE, Northwesterly along last named land, seventy-nine (79) feet, more or less, to a stone bound at the southeasterly corner of the premises herein conveyed;

THENCE, Northwesterly along land of said Grenville Park, two hundred twenty (220) feet, more or less, to the place of beginning.

SUBJECT TO AND TOGETHER WITH rights and easements in the common driveway which runs between the premises herein conveyed and the premises formerly of Helen A. Brennan (now the Unitarian Parsonage, so-called).

Being the same prem-

ises described in a deed from William C. Brundige and Isabelle R Brundige to John F. Slattery and Mary E. Slattery dated July 23, 1980 and recorded in Hampshire Registry of Deeds Book 2173, Page 49.

The description of the property that appears in the mortgage to be foreclosed shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagors' Title see deed dated July 31, 2017, and recorded in Book 12703 at Page 315 with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds.

TERMS OF SALE:
Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within sixty (60) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

BENDETT & MCHUGH,
PC
270 Farmington Avenue
Farmington, CT 06032
Attorney for Freedom
Mortgage Corporation
Present Holder of the
Mortgage
(860) 677-2868
12/26/2019,
1/02,1/09/2020

TOWN OF WARE LEGAL NOTICE Town of Ware – Proposed Zoning Amendments for Annual Town Meeting (ATM) 2020

Pursuant to MGL Ch. 40A, Sec. 5, the Ware Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 7:00 PM** in the Board of Selectmen Meeting Room in the Ware Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA. The purpose of this hearing is to consider amendments to the Town of Ware Zoning Bylaw. Topics proposed to be amended include definitions (§2.2), and Solar Energy Facilities (§4.8.3).

A copy of the proposed amendments may be inspected at the Town Clerk's Office or the

Planning & Community Development Office during regular business hours. Copies are available at the Ware Senior Center on Robbins Road and the Young Men's Library on Main Street. The proposed amendments can also be viewed on the Town website, www.townofware.com. Anyone interested or wishing to be heard on the proposed amendments should appear at the time and place designated.

Richard Starodoj,
Chairman
Ware Planning Board
12/26/2019, 1/02/2020

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

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James D'Amico-Broker/Owner
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508-885-2480

Attention all businesses in Ware, Warren the Brookfields and Barre!

We're promoting the history of local businesses in our
Established EDITION
to be published in the Ware River News, Quaboag Current and Barre Gazette
All local businesses are invited to showcase themselves to our readers – ads will run in order from the oldest to most recently established.
Advertisers can also submit vintage photos for this special section!

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PUBLISHES JANUARY 23

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at **E.B. Flatts**
Meet the New Owners
Jeremy and Sarah
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Thank you Scott and Grace Conner for all the years of your dedicated service to the town of East Brookfield! Come see them before they retire at the beginning of the new year.

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